

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANA 03182 291513Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----090026 291516Z /A2
O 291500Z JUN 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5207
AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SANA 3182

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS FROM RANSOM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, YE
SUBJ: NEXT STEPS AGAINST PDRY

REF: JIDDA 4834

1. AGREE COMPLETELY WITH TWINAM ASSESSMENT IN REFTEL
PARTICULARLY ON NEXT STEPS WE MIGHT TAKE.

2. MIGHT NOTE HOWEVER THAT SOME COMMENTS OF ABDAL GHANI --
AND OTHERS HERE I HAVE SPOKEN TO SINCE -- SUGGEST TO ME
STRIKE AGAINST PDRY IS MORE TEMPTING TO YAR THAN THEY
PREPARED TO LET ON. ASNAJ OF COURSE SAYS THIS PLAINLY BUT IN
BRIEF TALK -- MY FIRST -- WITH STRONG MAN ALI ABDALLAH
SALEH THE IMPETUOSITY AND COMBATIVENESS OF THE MAN CAME
THROUGH FORCEFULLY WHEN HE SAID HIS JOB WAS "SECURITY FOR
YAR AND REVENGE FOR GHASHMI." IT CAME THROUGH, TOO, WHEN
HE ASKED US TO PROVIDE HIM -- "SECRETLY AND SWIFTLY AND
DIRECTLY" -- WITH AERIAL SURVEILLANCE OF SOUTH AND WITH ORDER
OF BATTLE INFORMATION. IN SEPTTEL (DAO SANA 291130Z JUN 78)
MILATT THIS EMBASSY MAKES THIS REQUEST FOR REASONS WHICH,
IT SEEMS TO ME, SUPPORT OUR INTERESTS. HOWEVER, REQUEST MAY
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BE MOTIVATED BY DESIRE TO SUPPORT TACTICAL PLAN AGAINST SOUTH.

3. MIGHT ALSO NOTE THAT NEXT STEPS WHICH TWINAM OUTLINES
AMOUNT TO LARGE AGENDA IN TERMS OF TRAINING WE PLAN,
CONSULTATION WITH SAUDIS, DELIVERY SCHEDULE CHANGES,
SUPPORT IN AREA OF MAINTENANCE -- I SHORT, MORE ACTIVE USG
ROLE VIS-A-VIS BOTH SAUDIS AND YEMENIS. WE WILL TRANSMIT

ASAP SUGGESTIONS FOR SPECIFIC STEPS.

4. FEEL IT IS VERY IMPORTANT KEEP ME INFORMED OF DISCUSSIONS
EMBASSY JIDDA MAY HAVE WITH SAUDIS OR INTERPRETATIONS IT
MAY MAKE OF SAUDIS PLANS OR INTENTIONS. I AND REST OF STAFF HERE
NOT BE ABLE REPORT ACCURATELY IF LEFT IN DARK.

5. ONE MORE COMMENT. TWINAM VISIT WAS VERY RPT VERY TIMELY
AND SUCCESSFUL. HE DEFTLY (WHAT OTHER WAY WOULD TWINAM
BEHAVE*) PROVIDED YAR BOTH REASSURANCE AND RPT AND COOLING
ADVICE. WE MUST NOW FOLLOW UP IN SAME BALANCED WAY.
RANSOM

SECRET

NNN

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